

# Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

\* Athelington \* Denham \* Horham  
\* Hoxne \* Redlingfield \* Syleham \* Wingfield



## March 2016

MARCH 2016	6 March Mothering Sunday	13 March Lent 5	20 March Palm Sunday	Good Friday	27 March Easter Day
	Exodus 2:1-10 Coloss 3:12-17 John 19:25b-27	Isaiah 43:16-21 Phil 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8	Luke 19:28-40 Phil 2:5-11 Luke 23:1-49		Isaiah 65:17-25 Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18
<b>Athel'ton</b>			9.30am Holy Comm		
<b>Denham</b>					11.15am Family Service
<b>Horham</b>		9.30am Holy Comm	11.15am Family Service	7pm Easter Gospels	
<b>Hoxne</b>	11.15am Mothering Sunday Service	11.15am Morning Prayer	8.30am BCP Holy Comm 11.15am Palm Sunday Service	9.30am Putting out the light 4pm Worl'worth choir. Music for Passiontide	11.15am Family Service and Holy Comm
<b>Redl'field</b>	9.30am Holy Comm				
<b>Syleham</b>	4pm Messy Church for the benefice		10am Village Praise		7.45am at Monks Hall (see inside) 9.30am Holy Comm
<b>Wingfield</b>	10am Morning Prayer	11am Holy Communion	10am Family Service	12 noon Meditation /hymns	10am Family Service

March in our benefice starts with a funeral, has a low period and ends with the Resurrection; a parable for Easter itself.

The funeral on the 7 March, is for John Davy, long-standing church warden in Athelington. John's steady and faithful attention to the church reminds me of all the people who work behind the scenes so that we have somewhere to worship on a Sunday morning or sit with our thoughts in the week. As a new growing season begins, thank you to everyone who maintains churchyards, arranges flowers, polishes pews and takes care of all the 'little' things.

As Jesus died and was placed in the tomb the disciples felt abandoned and derelict. This low period in the Easter story will be lived out in Redlingfield as work is due to start on the roof renovation in the middle of March. But, just as in the Easter story, looks can be deceptive and no matter how derelict Redlingfield church looks meanwhile in scaffolding, there will be plenty of activity going on; as there has been already with the hard work to make the re-roofing possible.

The month ends with Easter, and the joy of the resurrection erupts across the benefice as our churches look so radiant with the flower arrangements and we celebrate our eternal hope and salvation. Thus a month that started with the sadness of a funeral ends with the joy of Easter, may that be the experience both for our benefice as a worshipping community, but for each of us in our own lives. **Rev Michael.**

Rev Michael's days off in March..... Thurs 3, Fri 4, Thurs 10, Fri 11, Thurs 17, Fri 18.

**Reverend Michael Womack**

St Andrew's House, Vicarage Road, Wingfield, Diss, Norfolk IP21 5RB. 01379 388889, hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

**Churchwardens**

**Athelington: St Peter.** Evelyn Adey 01728 628428

**Denham: St John the Baptist.** Michael Reeves 01379 668179

**Hoxne: St Peter & St Paul.** Brian Chester 01379 669157, Guy McGregor 01379 668434

**Horham: St Mary.** David Spall 01379 384239, Daphne Harvey 01379 384216

**Redlingfield: St Andrew.** Hazel Abbott 01379 678217

**Syleham: St Margaret.** Mary Lewis 01379 669258, John Leader 01379 668205

**Wingfield: St Andrew.** John McCracken 01379 384181

**Tuesday 8 March, 7.30pm, Midweek Communion**

**at the home of Barbara Irwin, Reading Hall, Denham**

**Fridays 4, 22 and 18 March, Compline, 6pm at Wingfield**

**Maundy Thursday, Taize Communion and stripping of the altar, Denham**

## **I'd like to help more in Church...**

It is tremendous how many people are involved in our worship, in the 'hidden' things of flowers, cleaning and music but also in Bible reading and leading the prayers. It helps join us together into the Body of Christ. I know more people would like to be involved but would appreciate help getting started. This Lent, help is at hand! Both for those who want to be more involved and those who'd like a bit of a refresher and to share experience. There are still 2 Sunday afternoon sessions to go, reading in church and leading the prayers in church. Each one will be in Wingfield at 3pm, starting in the church but then back to the rectory for afternoon tea and comfortable chairs.

**Sunday 28 Feb:** Reading the Bible in Church. Your voice is unique! If you'd like to be involved in our services by reading then this session will hopefully give you confidence and practical tips for doing that.  
**Sun 13 March:** Leading prayers. Come to any or all of the sessions, as you want; it will be lovely to see you.

## **Wingfield Barns 01379 384505**

**RoughCast presents Charley's Aunt,** Sunday 13th March, 7.30pm, one of the funniest and most entertaining farces of all time. Tickets: £9/£7 concessions.

**Healing Art and Wellbeing,** 1 - 4 pm, Wednesdays. Enjoyable social activities including art, healing, healing sound, improving your health with superfoods and natural remedies. £10 per person. Tea and snacks. Some guest speaker events throughout the year. Interested? Contact Samantha on 07825 058684.

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**This newsletter is found in all churches, but you can get it early by email. Please email [hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)**

**Every Monday in Lent,** (7, 14, 21) a light breakfast at St Andrew's House (The Rectory) in Wingfield from 7.45am will precede a simple morning service at 8.30am to be finished by 9am. Numbers please (for catering) to Rev Michael.

## **Compline during Lent at Wingfield**

A gentle and reflective service with which to end the week, Friday 4, 11 and 18 March, 6pm at St Andrew's Wingfield.

## **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land,**

**November 2016** Following several memorable pilgrimages to the Holy Land, you are warmly invited to join the Revd Mark Hunt, Chaplain at St Nicholas Hospice, Bury St Edmunds, for another 10 days in November, and allow both the Old and New Testaments to come alive! Based in two lovely hotels in Jerusalem and on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, pilgrims will visit most of the significant religious, cultural and historical sites. For further details or a brochure, please contact Mark on 01284 723918 or email: [jmarknhunt@gmail.com](mailto:jmarknhunt@gmail.com)

## **Children's Society in Advent/**

**Epiphany/ Candlemas donation** The offering at our Candlemas service raised £294 which when added to the various Christingle services during Advent and Epiphany means that as a benefice we were able to donate over £1,000 to this vital charity. Thank you very much for your generosity.

## **Denham midweek Communion**

Tuesday 8 March, 7.30pm Barbara Irwin's, Reading Hall, Denham. Everyone is welcome to this simple, reflective service.

**40 acts for Lent.** It is not too late to benefit you and others this Lent with this motivational programme. Visit the website [40acts.org.uk](http://40acts.org.uk).

## **Syleham**

**Soup and Snowdrops** proved to be a delightful occasion, with a happy buzz. We much appreciated the support from other parishes in the benefice! The quality of soup, bread and cheeses served was much praised. We are pleased everyone was happy! We made £330 towards essential maintenance work on the church.

**Messy Church for the benefice** next falls on Mothering Sunday, 6th March, so we'll be making mums feel special!

**Advance Notices** - we shall be holding our annual Summer Lunch at Monks Hall on Saturday 16 July, and this year it will be extended to include family activities and stalls. We are planning a Harvest Supper on Saturday 24th September.

**Women's World Day of Prayer** - 4 March, 2pm at Horham Baptist church. All welcome. The service has been devised this year by the women of Cuba.

**Friends of Hoxne Church coffee morning,** Saturday 26 March 10am to 12 noon in the church.

**Holy Week** Two special services to which to draw your attention.....

**Maundy Thursday Taize Communion** at Denham, 7.30pm. Mainly Taize songs with selected readings moving from the joy of the Passover celebration to the sombre mood of the Last Supper and desolation of betrayal, arrest and desertion.

**Easter Day Stations of the Resurrection** Monk's Hall Syleham, 7.45am, kindly hosted by J Leader. We move round the grounds meditating on Bible passages for Easter before moving into the warm for a breakfast fit for a High Feast day- salmon, boiled eggs and fizz and probably chocolate! For the catering arrangements please let Rev Michael know if you're planning to come.

## **Always plenty of coffee to drink!**

**\* In the Old School Hall in Horham** every Wednesday morning from 10am there is coffee, cookies, cakes and chatter and now, internet access and tuition!!

**\* Redlingfield's monthly winter coffee morning,** Wednesday 2 March at the home of Chris and Midge Gibbons, Rush Meadow, Redlingfield. Includes the usual coffee, tea, cakes, and a free raffle.

## **Redlingfield Quiz Night**

Quiz to raise funds for Redlingfield church on 12 March at the Old School Horham. Tickets £5 to include food (7pm for 7.30pm start). Details from Chris Stanford on 01728 628474.

**Wingfield coffee** in the foyer at Wingfield Barns, 10am to 12 noon, Tues 15 March.

**Mothers' Union,** Hoxne branch will meet on Monday 21 March, 2.15pm at Time House, Low St, Hoxne.

**A musical show featuring Felici,** a group of professionally trained singers from Hertfordshire, 5 March, 7.30pm in Hoxne Village Hall. It will be a mixed show of singing, dancing and drama. Bar open at 6.30pm and canapes will be served. Tickets (inc canapes) are £12.50 per person, from Hoxne Post Office, Eleanor Hart, (01379 669288) or from a committee member of Friends of the Church.

**Music for Passiontide** Worlingworth Benefice Choir at Hoxne church, 4pm on Good Friday - based on extracts from St Matthew's Gospel by Bernard Butler, local composer and choir member. Also on Palm Sunday, 7pm at St Mary, Worlingworth.

Much appreciation has been expressed after a visit by the Cathedral Choir to sing Choral Evensong at Hoxne church. People attended from throughout the benefice and deanery. Thank you for joining us.